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T-622 P.003/003 F-268

JUN 16 2006

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| Applicant: | ROSSAI ET AL. | Examiner: | UNKNOWN |
| Serial No.: | 10/672,238 | Group Art Unit: | 1652 |
| Filed: | SEPTEMBER 25, 2003 | Docket: | 12546.2USC4 |
| Confirmation No.: | 8516 | | |
| Due Date: | MARCH 2, 2004 | | |
| Title: | HYBRIDIZATION PROBES DERIVED FROM THE SPACER REGION BETWEEN THE 16S AND 23S RRBA GENES FOR THE DETECTION OF NON-VIRAL MICROORGANISMS | | |

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.6(d): I hereby certify that this paper is being transmitted by facsimile to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on June 16, 2006.

By: *Rebecca Krueger*
Name: Rebecca Krueger

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Mail Stop AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In the Office Action mailed April 20, 2006, the claim of the current application was divided into the following embodiments:

Group I: Claims 41-72 and 75-86, drawn to nucleic acid probes and methods of detection using said nucleic acid probes

Group II: Claims 73 and 74, drawn to methods for obtaining a nucleic acid probe

Applicants elect, without traverse, to prosecute the Group I embodiment, claims 41-72 and 75-86.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P. C.
P. O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903
(612) 766-6045

By: *Rebecca A. Bortolotti*
Rebecca A. Bortolotti
Reg. No. 51,488
RAB:rlk

Date: 6/16/06

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